

In The Drawings

Applicant has enclosed a corrected set of Figures with this preliminary amendment with the corrections shown in red ink. Specifically, Figures 2 and 3A have been amended to show the reference numbers 14 and 13, respectively. These reference numbers are referred to in the specification on page 7, line 19 – page 8, line 7. No new matter has been added. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner hold the requirement for formal drawings in abeyance until a Notice of Allowance is issued.

REMARKS

Applicant submits the following claim amendments prior to examination on the merits for consideration by the Examiner. The amendments cancel the existing claims 1-9, and add new claims 10-26. New claims 10-26 are substantially similar to (now cancelled) claims 1-9, but are written to ensure that the language of the claims comports with U.S. practice. No new matter has been added. In addition, Applicant submits a set of replacement drawings as previously noted, and amends the specification to correct minor typographical errors. No new matter has been added.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter the amendments prior to examination on the merits, and issue a notice of allowance for all pending claims.

July 17, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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